Letters

Improving Education

I just wanted to let you know that the Spring 1978 issue of the *Review* was delightful and valuable. It was of great help in my work as school board member and as college program reviewer.

The Saratoga Springs Board of Education is currently sponsoring a program aimed at improving students' reading and writing skills. The College Board provided us with several copies of the Spring *Review* for local teachers working on this project. The teachers' reactions were completely positive. They found the six essays on writing to be singulary useful in helping them to work out solutions to the vexing writing problems faced in the public schools.

It seemed important to let you know that so many of us see the new *Review* as revitalizing in its concept, execution, and coverage. And we will be looking forward to reading future issues. I have every expectation that the new *Review* will be contributing significantly to the improvement of the education of American children and adults.

Albert M. Serling
Director
Office of Program Review
and Assessment
Empire State College

A Most Readable Issue

The summer issue of the *Review* is gorgeous and one of the most readable and enticing issues I've ever seen of the magazine.

Margaret E. Bailey
Managing Editor
Change Magazine

Financial Aid Accurately Captured

Robert Scott's comments represent a "right-on" appraisal of the state of the student financial aid profession. He has accurately captured the concerns of many administrators who are attempting to maximize student service while still complying with the profusion of federal and state regulations.

Richard A. Rosati
Director of Financial Aid
State University College
Potsdam, New York

Meeting Ideals

The summer number of the *College Board Review* reached me yesterday. It is a gem, and I want to congratulate you and your associates for putting together this work of art. The Board, of necessity, has to put out great masses of workaday material, and much of it has to be dull and pedestrian. *This* is truly airborne and visits the blue empyrean. I got a lift out of every part of it; it raises the Board to a level commensurate with its best ideals and those of its member institutions.

B. Alden Thresher

B. Alden Thresher, former director of admissions at Massachusetts Institute of Technology was Chairman of the College Board from 1958 to 1960. He won the Edward S. Noyes Award in 1976.

In *College Admissions and the Public Interest*, published by the College Board in 1966, he wrote:

Of the two million boys and girls who graduate from high schools each year in the United States, more than half distribute themselves among some 2,000 colleges, universities, junior colleges, and technical institutes. This 'great sorting' is a social process of great complexity, not fully understood by the students themselves, by their parents and advisers, or by the educators, including admissions officers, who participate in it. The sorting process, taken in its entirety, is a product of an immense number of individual choices and decisions taken by millions of people, under the influence in part of calculations and estimates projected a generation into the future and in part of beliefs, opinions, whims, ancient loyalties, and areas of ignorance scarcely amenable to rational estimate.

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